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FREITAG'S
WHIP AND
WAR BRIDLE



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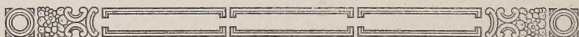
FREITAG'S WHIP AND WAR BRIDLE

*Freitag's
Whip and War Bridle*

*THE EDUCATING
OF THE COLT AND HORSE*



By H. C. FREITAG



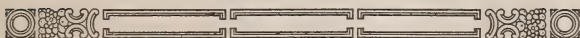
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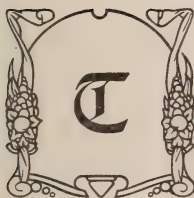


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TO ALL LOVERS OF THE HORSE.

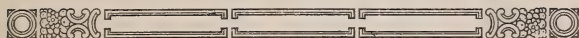


HERE is a saying that "valuable articles are done up in small packages." In this book I have tried to boil down the main principles of horse control, so you will waste no time in getting hold of the real thing. You have here the results of long study and experience. I only hope you will use it, and if you do I am sure you will have a higher opinion of the horse's intelligence, and a greater admiration for the noble animal that has been man's best companion and helper.


Very truly yours,

H. C. FREITAG.

Seward, Nebraska.



THE EDUCATION OF THE COLT AND HORSE.

 HIS lesson depends entirely on the subject. If it has never had a halter on, which I have found the case quite often, suppose it is in a lot and you want to catch it. I have always been successful by throwing a slip loop around the neck, made out of a heavy sash cord, and then working my way up to it. If it is of a wild nature, and wants to strike at you when you get it in close quarters, and it wont stand for you laying your hand on it in any way, by taking the butt end of the whip in hand, get close enough to touch it on the side of the neck, and speaking to it kindly. By rubbing it on the neck awhile you will find you can soon get close enough to rub it on the neck with your hand.

You have the noose around the neck ; by bringing the cord around the right side, over the nose, then by



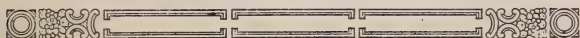
slipping through double between the neck and the noose, bring the double end back into the mouth over the upper teeth. This is my own bridle, called the Freitag bridle. You have a device on now with which you can subdue almost any wild colt.

By getting on one side you will be able to pull the colt hard enough to make it move out of its tracks, and by saying "Come here!" If it makes a move to come, stop and caress it on the neck. Repeat this a time or two and you may get straight in front of it and have it coming your way.

I made it my business to know why caressing on the neck would have such an effect on the colt.

The sympathetic system, as it is called, is a nerve running from the throat where it is connected to the spinal cord. It has six different connections with the spinal cord from the throat to the shoulder. By caressing on the shoulder you gain the colt's confidence.

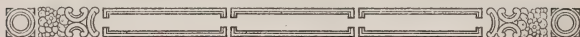
It is best to have the colt in a lot or enclosure. By repeating with this bridle and the command, "Come here!" in a short time you may take the bridle off and the colt will follow you anywhere.



FIRST LESSON GIVEN A GREEN COLT THAT IS GENTLE AND HALTER-WISE.

I believe in teaching one thing at a time. Both commands can be taught a colt with a good head in one day, by teaching one in the morning and the other in the evening, but teach one at a time.

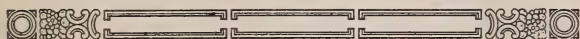
In teaching the command, "get up!" put on the bridle without a check rein, unless it holds its head down near its shins, as I have found many of them to do. In this case check just high enough so you have better control of it. Never allow your subject to run backward. Should it try it, put on the Freitag bridle and have some good man that understands his business pull it forward when given the command to start. Start it a few times in this manner. When it starts freely, take the lead of the bridle from the assistant and in your hand with the lines back of the colt. Now drive it and stop by pulling just hard enough on the device to bring it to a stand still without saying "whoa!" When you have turned him both ways, and he obeys your first command, let him rest a few hours before teaching the command "whoa!"



TEACHING THE COMMAND "WHOA!"

Teaching the command, "whoa!" should be done thoroughly. Always work your subject according to its disposition. If the colt is of the stubborn kind, one that has a bulge below the line of the eyes, it is best to have the governing device on his head. If it is of a very nervous kind, it is best to have appliances on the fore-feet. Experience has taught me that a study of the disposition is necessary to be successful in this work, and it is easy enough studied.

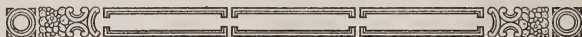
Where so many mistakes are made is by using the same appliance for the many different dispositions, and getting the colt confused. In your case, if your subject is of the stubborn kind, the best device to make him respond to the word "whoa!" is a double pulley bridle made out of sash cord with two small pulleys. Take sash cord about thirty-six feet long, tie each pulley (such as are used for windows of the smallest kind) in the center of the cord about eight inches apart, lay them back of the colt's ears, bring the cord from the right side through the mouth and on through the pulley



on the left side of the head, and the one from the left side through the mouth to the right side. If it is not severe enough, put one of the cords under the upper lip, and remember you are working on a stubborn subject.

Have your bridle lines and surcingle, one which will not interfere in the least with the pulley bridle. Take both ends of the sash cord with your lines, having the lines through a ring of surcingle on both sides about half way down on body, to prevent the colt from turning while teaching this command. Start him up, the very first time you say "whoa!" follow with a sudden pull on pulley bridle, and bring him to a stand still.

Repeat until you have him stopping at the command "whoa!" and do not forget to caress him on the sympathetic nerve for obeying, for kindness plays a big part with the horse. Let him rest for a few hours before doing any more.



SECOND LESSON.

TEACHING THE NERVOUS COLT
THE WORD "WHOA!"

It is best to have soft footing for this kind. As the throwing appliances will be necessary to bring it to its knees a time or two. The place can be made of manure or straw better than to have big knees, should the appliances have to be used much. Knee pads are hard to find that are any account.

Have the lines on as before. Be on the alert, and as you give the command to stop, pull on the throwing appliance and bring him to his knees. Do not hold him there, but relax on the rope and let him up. Repeat until you have him stopping at the command.



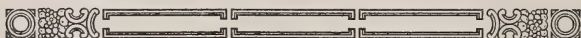
THIRD LESSON.

AFTER THE COLT UNDERSTANDS THE WORD "WHOA!"

Before the colt understands the word "whoa!" you may drill it to objects of fear by driving it over papers, robes, or anything that might cause it to frighten.

Be careful and not hurt it in any way after it becomes indifferent to these objects.

Now is a good time to ride it about in the lot. I ride most of my subjects in this lesson without bridle or halter of any kind, and guide it with open umbrella over its head. After having this lesson well taught, let it rest for the next lesson.

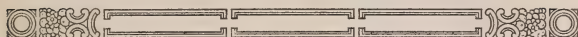


FOURTH LESSON.

HITCHING THE COLT SINGLE.

Drill it about in the lot with the lines. Put the front hobble on, run the rope between the hind legs, and drive it until it becomes indifferent as to what you are doing. Then you may hitch it to buggy or cart and drive carefully until it is convinced nothing is going to hurt it. Leave the appliance on, but take the rope out from between its hind legs.

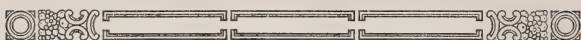
I have driven gentle colts by just driving a little while with lines, and then hitching without going to this extra work, but most of the time to my sorrow, as I have found nine out of every ten will take an outbreak after they have been driven in the nicest way for a month or a year. By giving them these extra lessons, no matter how gentle they may seem, the outbreaks will be few and you will have your colt under control if they should try it, by saying "whoa!"



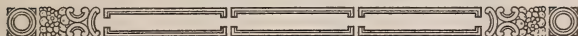
FIFTH LESSON.

BREAKING UP THE HABIT OF KICKING.

The throwing appliance is necessary, but it is not necessary to throw them every time they attempt to kick. I do not believe entirely in the front hobble with a kicker; it gives no control of the head. I have broken up this habit without ever using front hobble by means of a halter and a rope. If the horse can be controlled by the head or you can get his attention by use of some device, then the habit can be cured by looping a rope around the hind leg, one rope above and one below the hock joint. Be sure and have a piece of blanket or sack around the leg and loop the rope over this to keep from taking any hide off. It will not hurt the horse in the least. Have rope long enough to run through the ring of the halter or take halter rope and run back through the loop on the hind leg. Now pull hard enough to throw the horse on his side by taking the head around to side by means of device on hind leg. The neck will become so limber that the least pull on one line will bring the head to the side and you can render the horse powerless to kick. This must be done on both sides alike. After they



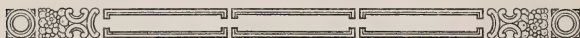
have been taken down a few times in this manner, have a nose band made that can be buckled from one ring in the bit to the other ring. That fits it over the nose snugly. Have two loops made about three inches apart in center of nose band so that a sash cord can be run through, tied to small bit in mouth or check line bit; now across and tie in check rein bit. The two cords must be long enough to each one will reach back to driver in the buggy. Now have two loops on top of bridle between the ears, large enough for sash cord. Take one end of the sash cord and run through territ ring; through loop in bridle; through loop in nose band; cross and tie in check rein bit. Do the other one likewise. Now pull horse's head where you wish to rein them and tie both cords back of territ rings; take cord back in the buggy. Now you have his neck limber by the first treatment. If the kicker shows signs of an outbreak, pull on sash and one line. It will bring head in the air and to one side and the kicker is powerless. Use this device until you are satisfied in your own mind that you have broken up the habit. The same effect can be gotten with good bridle check rein and lines after the neck has been made limber by reining up and pulling on one line.



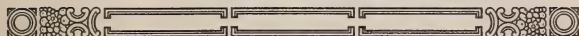
SIXTH LESSON.

BREAKING THE HABIT OF BALKING.

There has been much written about the balker, such as subjective treatment with throwing appliance and the war bridles. I have been successful with a certain number of horses with this treatment and am proud to say I have worked every balker that I ever tried. I have found it necessary to do a right good job without hurting the horse, to give it other treatment than subduing with throwing appliances and war bridles. I believe it is useless to whip a horse for balking or to break up any other habit. If a horse can be cured from balking without injuring him in any way, no matter how, I believe, is good, whether it's my way or somebody else's way of giving treatment. When the throwing appliance failed, I was always able to break up the habit by putting on a good halter that fit up good by tying a padded rope around the neck and tying the rope fast up to a pole or a limb of a tree far enough that the horse cannot strike hind end or legs against it. I have set posts high enough and fastened a good



stout cross piece that will hold a horse's weight. Tie in middle of cross piece, pull the head up high enough to tire them by standing in this position. Have every thing good and stout. In a short time they will begin to fight this. They will fight the air sometimes. This will last from two to five hours. There is no danger, if you will raise the head just high enough so they will fight. After untying them, start and stop them with the lines before hitching up. If the treatment has not been sufficient, repeat until you have the habit broken. This will have good effect on kickers also. After you untie from the pole, then it is all right to put on a war bridle of some kind. Have a man take hold of the end of it and pull at the same time. The driver gives the command to start and taps with the whip. But remember, be careful with the whip; use the whip just to get the attention of the horse. If you can't by just tapping, use some other means of getting its attention in place of whip.



SEVENTH LESSON. TEACHING HORSE TO FOLLOW.

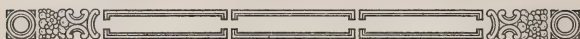
This can be done many different ways. I will show you how and you may take your choice.

After giving horse treatment for balking, tying head up, you can throw halter rope over the shoulder and it will follow. By putting on double pulley bridle, and giving a pull first one way and then another, and saying, "come here!" at the same time, it will follow you.

By turning horses loose in lot and whipping around hind legs and caressing every time it turns its head to you, it will follow.

By feeding sugar every time you go to the pasture, it will follow.

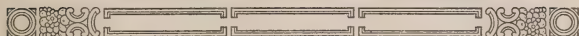
I believe by use of bridle is the best.



EIGHTH LESSON.

DRIVING WITHOUT LINES.

Since last October I have driven a number of colts without lines, I do not know how many, in my enclosure. But three of them I have driven on the streets and the last one without a bridle. The first one was a Percheron type, two years past. When I drove him he probably weighed fourteen hundred. He was driven on the streets of Minier and Stanford without lines, and he did several other tricks. The next one was a road colt. He was sired by Prince Weller with a mark of 2:17, trotting, but not standard bred. He was driven by me in the different towns of Danvers, Lilly, Mackinaw, Morton, Stanford, Minier, Atlanta and Delavan, (all these towns are in Illinois). I drove this colt without a bridle on in Minier. Also rode him that way. The next one was at Goehner, Nebraska, Seward, county. This was a three year old roadster, but not standard bred. He was driven by me in the different towns of Goehner, Tamora, Beaver Crossing,

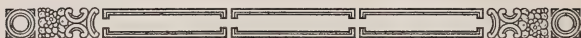


Milford and Seward, Nebraska. I trained this colt in eleven days to drive without lines. I have done this to advertise and show that my course means control. Any one applying this in way indicated can have good results.

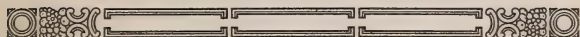
The first lesson is given with the double pulley bridle. In the way of getting the colt's confidence, put on pulley bridle and ride it about in the lot. Next, put on the front hobble. This should be done in a lot not over fifty feet square. Use surcingle, bridle and lines. Take hobble rope in hand between hind legs, tap it on the side of the neck the way you wish to turn, pull the whip away from the neck about four feet. If the colt stops, tap it again, and pull on the line the way you want to turn. Drill it this way for fifteen minutes on both sides. When it begins to turn nicely, tie the lines up.

You must not get angry, or you can never drive without lines.

Now use the hobble rope, and tap on the neck with the whip ; get out to the side and look the colt right in the eye as you draw the whip away. If it does not



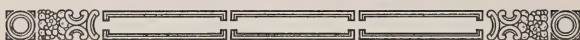
want to turn, take hold of the line again and repeat with whip to give the colt a chance to know that you mean for it to turn with the whip. Now stop it and start tapping on the side of the neck with the whip. If it wants to turn the other way, pull on hobble rope. When he comes your way, let loose of hobble rope. This must be done the instant he turns your way. Be careful and make as few mistakes with the whip as you can. By repeating in this manner you will soon have it following the whip. After you have it following the whip both ways, let it rest a while. Then teach it to stop by pulling on hobble rope and raising the whip in the air, at the same time you pulling repeatedly until you have it stopping by raising the whip. Be sure and drill this colt thoroughly before hitching. Drive it with the lines the first time or two and use them just as little as possible. Take sash cord, make loop in it, and place around the upper jaw and the nose, pass through loop on top of bridle and take in the buggy or cart. Now stop it by pulling on sash cord and raising whip. Turn with whip and by means of sash cord. After you get control of this way, put on front hobble and



take hold of tail of colt ; stop by pulling it to its knees with hobble and say " whoa ! " by pulling on tail.

It is best next time to repeat. You can tell when you have your subject under control and take appliances off one at a time until you have every thing off but the bridle.

You must be careful now and keep control of colt. Never hit it with the whip or you will spoil all you have gained.



A FINAL WORD.

In conclusion, do not forget the great necessity for

PATIENCE,

PERSEVERANCE, and

SELF CONTROL,

on your part. It stands to reason that you will not be able to control an unruly horse (or anything else) if you can't control yourself.

You will therefore see that in teaching your horse good manners and correct habits, you will probably be learning something yourself.

Do n't spend a lot of time training a horse, and then allow your work to be spoiled by thoughtless or brutal treatment.

Again I say, use these valuable lessons wisely, mix them with patience and perseverance, keep your temper, and you will gain pleasure and profit thereby.

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